

The country took up with a good deal of fine enthusiasm the appeal to them for a voluntary restriction of their use of food.

Within
The King a few days Lord Devonport had the
Stations gratification of receiving a call from Sir

Derek Keppel, who came to tell him on the King's behalf that it was being strictly observed by every member of the Royal Household.

But the growing submarine menace made inroads upon our importing capacity which rapidly threatened to outrun the limit of the
Ajurtker economies which could be achieved on a
Food Orders voluntary basis, and in March and April,

1917, a number of compulsory restrictions were imposed on the distribution and sale of food-stuffs. Bread could not be sold till it was 12 hours old. Compulsory potato rations were fixed for hotels, clubs and restaurants, and a meatless day was compulsory for them. Manufacture for sale of light pastries, muffins, crumpets and tea-cakes was prohibited. The principal flour mills were taken over by the Food Controller, and measures of control imposed in respect of rice, peas, beans and pulse. An Order was issued prohibiting food hoarding, and drastic action threatened against any individuals who continued to consume more than their proper ration.

Germany was at this time furnishing an illustration

of the immense importance of the
Cabinet's policy
of firmly controlling the supply
of food.
The warning in the autumn of 1916 the
German
exp/ve Government had overestimated
the yield
of its harvest, and did not find
out its
mistake till February, 1917, when it also
discovered
that the civilian population had, in
fact, been